

Testimony on HB5417: An Act Concerning End-Of-Life Care

Provided by

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I am writing in support of HB5417. Aid in Dying is an act of mercy for patients who suffer terminal illness and expect to endure extreme pain. Medical science has made great advancements in prolonging life. However, prolonging life has frequently come at the expense of quality of life. This bill protects patients from coercive efforts and from making rash decisions and protects medical care providers from taking actions that might violate their belief system.

For many patients, the idea of spending their remaining days either in great pain or in a hazy cloud of semi-consciousness induced by opioid pain killers is unacceptable. These patients should have the right to determine how much pain they are willing to endure and how to alleviate that pain in a legal, dignified manner.

I urge you to vote in favor of HB5417.